

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 3-5 without prejudice to or waiver of their subject matter.

Please amend Claim 6, as follows. All claims in the application are reproduced below in accordance with current U.S. Patent and Trademark Office requirements.

Claims 1 through 5. (Cancelled).

6. (Currently Amended) An image fixing apparatus, comprising:

a first rotatable member for being heated by a first heater to fix a toner image on a ~~the~~ recording material;

first control means for controlling electric power supply to said first heater, said first control means effecting a phase control of the electric power supply upon start of the electric power supply;

a second rotatable member for being heated by a second heater to fix the toner image on the recording material;

second control means for controlling electric power supply to said second heater, said second control means effecting a phase control of the electric power supply upon the start of the electric power supply,

wherein when temperature of said first rotatable member and said second rotatable member are lower than respective target temperatures, the phase control for the second heater is started after completion of the phase control for the first heater.

7. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein said first and second control means effect the phase control on the basis of zero-cross timing of a commercial electric source.

8. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein said first control means and said second control means reduce electric power supply angles in the phase control upon the start of the electric power supply.

9. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein said first rotatable member and said second rotatable member form an image fixing nip.